

Knowing and Operating in Your Spiritual Gifts



Session #8: Going Deeper to Find Your Place In God's Purpose

Ministry Moments: Have you had any ministry moments where you experienced a Holy Spirit gift at work? Either working through you to others, or others to you?

Session Focus: Can we learn to work in God's way and not our own?

Prayer: Lord, help us see that Your way is the best way, and that if we're willing You'll help us accomplish Your will, in Jesus name.

READ Isaiah 55 (1-5, 6-9, 10-11, 12-13) *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."*

Investigation: Administration, Exhortation, Faith

ADMINISTRATION: The special ability of enthusiastically working with, as well as through, fellow believers toward achieving biblical goals and organizational objectives within the body of Christ. Especially gifted in moving groups forward. **Active Ideal:** An initiator who leads by example. **Trap to Avoid:** Leading by manipulation or expecting too much from those you serve with. **Verses:** Romans 12:6-8 (v.8); 1 Corinthians 12:28, Acts 6:1-6

EXHORTATION: The special ability to come alongside another in need of encouragement, challenge, or earnest advice, from a God-given perspective. **Active Ideal:** Encourage action toward an applied truth without creating expectations. **Trap to Avoid:** Talking too much, not listening enough. **Verses:** Romans 12:6-8 (v.8); Acts 11:23-24; Hebrews 10:24-25

FAITH: The special ability to trust deeply in the presence and power of God, and the willingness to act on this trust; often stretching the faith and commitment of others. **Active Ideal:** Optimistically combines faith and works and learns to be patient with others. **Trap to Avoid:** Overly trusting of others. Inwardly proud of one's faith as compared to others. **Verses:** 1 Corinthians 12:7-9; Matthew 8:5-16; Hebrews 11:1

**Are you getting a sense of how God might be calling you to serve?
What might be holding you back?**

Follow up: Why do you think working with others can be so challenging – especially in ministry?

What purpose, if any, might our disagreements in church serve?

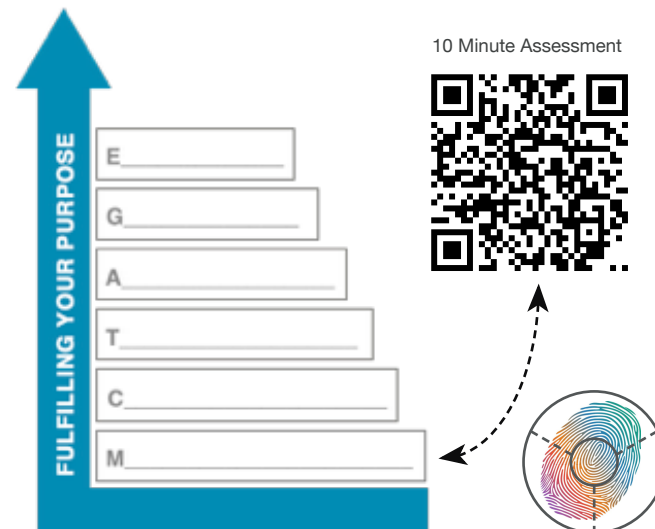


READ 1 Corinthians 11:16-19 Study Points:

- The Greek for "factions" can be translated as "groups," "divisions," "differences," "sects," or "heresies."
- When one is seen to be "genuine" the scripture is speaking of a person's character and possibly about their true status as a born of the Spirit believer.

PERSONALITIES ARE COMPLEX

Our attempt to classify types refers to the distinctive patterns of thinking, feeling, and behaving we can observe. They derive from a mix of innate dispositions and inclinations along with environmental factors and experiences. Many dimensions can be hidden from us.



**Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.
How are you drawing close and conversing with the Lord?
How do you know you're hearing His voice?**

MEMORY VERSE

God's Great Plan

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Spiritual Gifts Listed in the Bible

1 Corinthians 12:1-14

– 9 gifts, by verse –

(v.8) wisdom

(v.8) knowledge

(v.9) faith

(v.9) healing

(v.10) working of miracles

(v.10) prophecy

(v.10) discernment of spirits

(v.10) various kinds of tongues

(v.10) interpretation of tongues

Romans 12:6-8, 13

– 9 gifts, by verse –

(v.6) prophesy

(v.6) faith

(v.7) ministry in ministering

(gift of serving, helping)

(v.7) teacher in teaching

(v.8) exhorter in exhortation

(strongly encourage along

a godly line of action)

(v.8) giver in generosity

(gift of giving)

(v.8) leader in leading

(v.8) compassionate in

cheerfulness

(gift of showing mercy)

(v.13) hospitality

Ephesians 4:11

– 5 Fold Ministry –

There are Apostolic*,

Prophetic*, Evangelical,

Pastoral, and Teaching*

Ministries.

*also see, 1 Cor. 12:28-29

Q: Intercession? 1 Timothy 2
Most likely a ministry calling.